KATIVIK

Kativik Regional Government welcomes visit of Minister responsible for families, seniors and the status of women

Kuujjuaq, Nunavik – September 25th 2006 – Chairperson Maggie Emudluk of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) proudly welcomed the Minister responsible for Families, Seniors and the Status of Women for Quebec, Madame Carole Théberge today at the Municipal office of Kangirsualujjuaq and at KRG's head office in Kuujjuaq.

The purpose of the meeting between the Kativik Regional Government and the Minister responsible for Families, Seniors and the Status of Women Carole Théberge was to speak about issues concerning each of the three groups for which the Minister Théberge is responsible for.

Minister Théberge, accompanied by her delegation, and Chairperson Maggie Emudluk and Assistant Director of Employment Training Income Support and Child Care Margaret Gauvin for the Kativik Regional Government traveled to Kangirsualujjuaq to visit the Aqaivik child care center and to meet with the mayor, Kitty Annanack, and representatives from the northern village or Kangirsualujjuaq. Discussed during this meeting was the need for new childcare places in Nunavik and pay equity for childcare center workers in Nunavik.

The delegation then traveled back to Kuujjuaq, where they met with the Committee for the Creation of Nunavik Elders Association and the Saturviit women's association. Chairperson Maggie Emudluk and Director of Regional and Economic Development Adel Yassa of the Kativik Regional Government, members of the Committee for the Creation of Nunavik Elders Association, members of the Saturviit women's association and representatives of the Makivik Corporation, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services and the Saputiit Youth Association of Nunavik were all there to bring forward their needs and concerns.

The purpose of the meeting was for the Minister Théberge to listen to the concerns coming from the members representing both the elders and the women. The language to be used in correspondence with Nunavik elders, benefits and pensions payable to Nunavik Elders, the Nunavik elders' action plan, old age security benefits and social assistance benefits and the age at which Nunavik elders start receiving pension plans were some of the issues brought forward by the Committee for the Creation of Nunavik Elders Association. Child advocacy, healing, education and language were among the main topics brought forward by the Saturviit women's association.

As a conclusion to the Minister Théberge's visit, Chairperson Maggie Emudluk, Assistant Director of Employment Training Income Support and Child Care Margaret Gauvin and Director of Regional and Economic Development Adel Yassa of the Kativik

Regional Government accompanied Minister Théberge and her delegation to the Iqitauvik and Tumiapiit childcare centers and to the Tusaajiapik Elders residence. There, Minister Théberge had a chance to interact with the elders and with the children as well as meet the directors and visit each of the facilities.

Kativik Regional Government (KRG) is a non-ethnic public organization created in 1978 under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement whose jurisdiction covers nearly the entire territory of Quebec north of the 55th parallel. KRG administers the affairs of Nunavik in the areas of municipal affairs, transportation, police, employment, manpower training, income security, environment, childcare services, renewable resources, land-use management, civil security, and economic development.

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